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Whitehall, November 23.

A Gentleman who with a great deal of Danger is come over from Ostend *in an open Boat, brings the following Advices from Lieutenant-General* Erle.

Ostend, November 30. *N. S.*

ON Friday the 23d Instant the Duke of Bavaria came before Brussels, with 36 Battalions, 16 Squadrons, 27 pieces of Cannon, 14 Mortars, and a great number of Pioneers; he took Post near the Louvain-Gate, having advanced in two Lines between the Village of Vekle, and the Village of Herbeck, taking his Head Quarters in the Abbey of Cameren. On his arrival early in the Morning he sent a Drummer to summon the City, but Lieutenant-General Paschal, who Commands in chief, return'd answer by the same Drummer, That he would defend the City to the last Extremity; whereupon the Duke of Bavaria erected two Batteries on the Causeway of Elsen, out of the Rubbish of several old Houses, and the City fired upon them from three Batteries of 8 pieces of Cannon each. The Council of State was extraordinarily assembled on this Occasion, and Orders were given out to prevent Caballing. The Garrison consisted of 6000 Men, under the Command of Monsieur Paschall, and the Major-Generals Murray and Wrangle. On the News of the Duke of Bavaria's being before Brussels, his Grace the Duke of Marlborough having left 30 Battalions to block up the Citadel of Lisle, and being joined by Prince Eugene with the rest of the Army, and by the Prince of Hesse with the Troops from la Bassée, marched towards the Schelde, and on Tuesday Morning forced his Passage in three several Places over that River. The Prince of Hesse passed at Pont d'Espieres, Prince Eugene above it, and the Duke of Marlborough between Pont d'Espieres and Audenarde.

Ostend, December 1. N. S. This Morning we are assured that our Army, in their Passage over the Schelde, made 17 Battalions Prisoners, took 70 Pieces of Cannon, with all their Pontoons and heavy Baggage; and that 40 Battalions and 50 Squadrons, under the Command of the Generals Dompré and Lottum, were the first that passed the Schelde at Gavre near Ghent, and advancing into Brabant, obliged the Duke of Bavaria to raise the Siege of Brussels. Letters from thence which arrived late this Evening, say, That the Duke of Bavaria stormed the Breach several times, but was repulsed in each Assault with considerable Loss: That the Attack on the 24th was the most furious, and lasted the longest; in which 1500 of the Enemy were killed and wounded; and among the killed, four Colonels. The same Day, at nine in the Evening, he decamped, leaving 15 pieces of Cannon, and 4 Mortars, with all his wounded Men behind him, and retired towards Namur. A Person who attended Mr. Cardonnell from General Erle, and is since returned hither, says, that before he came away he saw 30 pieces of Cannon and 4000 Prisoners taken at the Passage where the Duke of Marlborough was in Person. He adds, That about three of the Clock in the Afternoon the Army had entirely passed over the River, driven the Enemy out of their Lines, and took possession of their Batteries. Prince Eugene pursu'd the Enemy towards Tournay, whilst the Duke of Marlborough marched after another Body of them towards Ghent. His Grace is now encamped at Gavre, within two Leagues and a half of that City. These Accounts are daily confirmed; and we hear that the Duke of Bavaria had battered Brussels with such Success, that the Burghers began to Mutiny, and that the Governor had Capitulated to surrender the Place on the twenty ninth; but that upon the approach of the advanced Troops of our Army, the Duke of Bavaria raised the Siege, and retired with Precipitation. The six Regiments which have been some days Embarked to be sent to Antwerp, are still detained here by contrary Winds. We have just now Advices, that the French have seized all the Boats of Bruges, in order to retire to Newport.

Hague, November 23. *N. S.* The States of Holland are again assembled, and have the Publick Funds under their present Consideration. The State of the War for the ensuing Campaign has been laid before the States General. They write from Hanover, that his Electoral Highness went to Herrenhausen on the 8th Instant, and designed to remain there as long as the Season continued fair. It is said, that before his Electoral Highness left the Army, he had represented to the Diet of Ratisbon, by his Minister in that Place, that the Troops must soon be separated into Winter Quarters, without making any attempt on the Enemy: That his Electoral Highness had been obliged to act only in a defensive manner, because several Members of the Empire had not paid the Contingent which they had engaged to bring in for the Support of the Army. The Elector acquainted them at the same time, that it was absolutely necessary that the Allies should put themselves in a condition of acting with more vigour on the Rhine, in order to oblige the French to restore the Territories which they had usurped from them; his Electoral Highness concluded his Representation by showing the Necessity of coming to a Resolution of augmenting the Troops, and settling greater Funds for the Payment of them. We hear from Frankfort, that they use all possible diligence in Fortifying the Lines at Etlingen; and that the main Body of the Imperial Army was still encamped on each side of the Rhine; and that very few Regiments had yet marched into Quarters. It is further said,